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Remarks: General

The claims have been amended by rewriting Claims 22, 25, 36, 38, 39, 49, 51, 61 and 71; and canceling Claims 23, 37 and 50 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. No new matter is added by these amendments. The limitations of Claims 23, 37, 50 and 61 have been incorporated into Claims 22, 36, 49 and 51, respectively; and the limitations of Claim 25 have been incorporated into Claim 61. The added recitation of the term "polymeric" in Claims 25, 38, 39 and 61 is consistent with the many types of polymers that are named in the claims.

By Applicant's calculation, no fee is due by reason of this amendment to the claims. If, however, any fee is required to authorize or obtain consideration of this response, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

Claims 1-4, 16-22, 24-36, 38-49 and 51-71 are now active in the application. Applicant hereby requests reconsideration and further examination of the application in view of the reasons it has set forth below for allowance of the claims.

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Remarks: Detailed Action

I.

The Examiner had previously rejected Claims 15~17, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite in view of the use of the term "fiber". As Applicant has either deleted the term "fiber" from those claims, or replaced it with other appropriate terminology, Applicant respectfully submits that the previous rejection of Claims 15~17, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §112 has been overcome.

II.

The Examiner had previously rejected Claims 1~4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by US 4,403,470 ("Nelson") alone or optionally taken together with GB 924,086.

Nelson discloses a process for making a composite yarn of staple fibers commingled with continuous filaments by passing a feed yarn through a splaying zone in air where the filaments are splayed into an open network and airborne staple fibers are projected into the open network to combine and commingle with the continuous filaments, after which the open network is collapsed into the composite yarn.¹

GB-086 discloses a yarn and process for making it in which at least two groups of continuous filaments are fed at different rates through a turbulent fluid zone, and either in that zone or subsequently are stretched so as to break the filaments of at least one group while leaving those of another group unbroken by the stretching process.² Because of the difference in the rates of feed between the several components of the yarns of GB-086, the filaments bunch together and not distributed uniformly along the length of the yarn. This results in a slub effect caused by variations in denier along the yarn due to the fact that in some regions a greater quantity of material is present than in other regions.³

Because of the specific effects obtained in the yarns produced by the respective processes of the cited references, it is

¹ Column 2, lines 1~6.

² Page 1, lines 76~83.

³ Page 2, lines 79~87.

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submitted that the yarns described by the claims in this application, as amended, are not taught or suggested by either of the references, alone or together. In particular, it is submitted that the references do not address a yarn comprising discontinuous filaments and continuous filaments such as

the yarn of Claim 1 (on which Claims 2~4, 16~22, 24 and 25 are dependent) wherein the average length, "avg", of the discontinuous filaments is greater than 6 inches, and the discontinuous filaments have a filament length distribution characterized by the fact that 5% to less than 15% of the discontinuous filaments have a length that is greater than 1.5 avg;

the yarn of Claim 26 (on which Claims 27~36 and 38 are dependent) wherein the continuous filaments have less than 10% elongation to break;

the yarn of Claim 39 (on which Claims 40~49 are dependent) wherein the continuous polymeric filaments comprise elastic filaments having an elongation to break greater than about 100% and an elastic recovery of at least 30% from an extension of 50%;

the yarn of Claim 51 (on which Claims 52~61 are dependent) wherein the yarn comprises at least two filaments that have a difference in colors, the colors of the filaments excluding neutral colors having a lightness greater than 90%, and the colors of the filaments having a color difference of at least 2.0 CIELAB units, the lightness and color difference measured according to ASTM committee E12, standard E-284, to form a multicolored yarn; or

the yarn of Claim 62 (on which Claims 63~71 are dependent) wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier have a latent elasticity of 30% or more.

In view of the incorporation into each of the independent claims of features characterizing specific properties of the claimed yarn, it is believed that Nelson alone, or Nelson taken in view of GB-086, does not teach or suggest the yarns to which the pending claims are directed. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the

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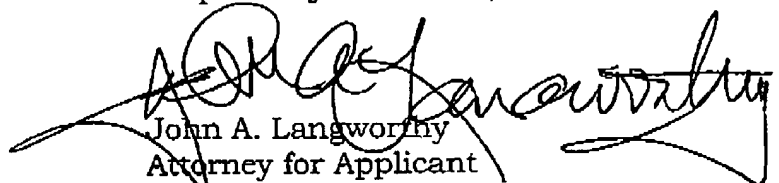
previous rejection of Claims 1~4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) has been overcome. Applicant further submits that Claims 26~36, 38~49 and 51~71 are distinguishable over the art for the same reasons.

III.

An oath and power of attorney for the three inventors listed in the ADS was enclosed with the paper filed on October 19, 2005. It is noted in this connection that the filing receipt is incorrect as it lists too many inventors. A corrected filing receipt is hereby respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been properly traversed, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, request for which is hereby respectfully made.

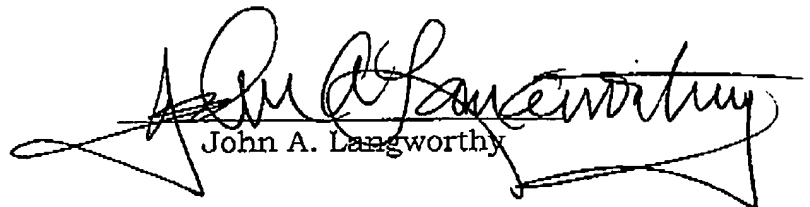
Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on December 7, 2005.

Date: December 7, 2005



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Appendix A

(i) Amendments
in marked-up form to
Claims 22, 25, 36, 38,
39, 49, 51, 61 and 71; and

(ii) Status of all other claims

1. (previously presented) A consolidated yarn comprising (a) discontinuous filaments of different lengths that have not been drawn and are intermingled along a length of the yarn to maintain a unity of the yarn, and (b) continuous filaments intermingled with the discontinuous filaments along the length of the yarn;

wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acetate polymer or copolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, polyacetal, an acrylate polymer or copolymer, polyacrylonitrile, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, polyimide, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a copolymer of an amide with an ether and/or ester, a vinyl polymer, and a polyimide; and mixtures of any two or more thereof;

wherein the continuous filaments comprise materials that are different from the materials from which the discontinuous filaments are comprised and are selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acetate polymer or copolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, polyacetal, an acrylate polymer or copolymer, polyacrylonitrile, a cellulose polymer, an olefin

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polymer or copolymer, polyimide, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a copolymer of an amide with an ether and/or ester, a vinyl polymer, a polyimide, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a natural fiber, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof; and

wherein the average length, "avg", of the discontinuous filaments is greater than 6 inches, and the discontinuous filaments have a filament length distribution characterized by the fact that 5% to less than 15% of the discontinuous filaments have a length that is greater than 1.5 avg.

2. (original) A yarn according to Claim 1 wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a vinyl polymer, and mixtures of any two or more thereof

3. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 1 wherein the wherein the continuous filaments comprise materials that are different from the materials from which the discontinuous filaments are comprised and are selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a vinyl polymer, a polyimide, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a

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natural fiber, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber;
and mixtures of any two or more thereof.

4. (original) A yarn according to Claim 1 wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, and mixtures of any two or more thereof; and wherein the continuous filaments comprise different materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof.

5 ~ 15. (canceled)

16. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 1 wherein the discontinuous filaments have a filament length distribution of 5% to less than 15% of the filaments having a length less than 0.5 avg.

17. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 1 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier have a filament-to-filament coefficient of friction of 0.1 or less.

18. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 1 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn have a

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filament cross-section having a width and a plurality of thick portions connected by thin portions within the filament width, and the thin portions at the ends of the discontinuous filaments are severed so the thick portions are separated for a length of at least about three filament widths to thereby form split ends on the filaments.

19. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 1 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier have a latent elasticity of 30% or more.

20. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 1 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier comprise a bicomponent yarn comprising a first component of 2GT polyester and a second component of 3GT polyester.

21. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 1 wherein at least 1% of the yarn by denier comprises a fluoropolymer.

22. (currently amended) A yarn according to Claim 1 which comprises at least two filaments that have ~~visually distinct differences detectable by an unaided eye~~ a difference in colors, the colors of the filaments excluding neutral colors having a lightness greater than 90%, and the colors of the filaments having a color difference of at least 2.0 CIELAB units, the lightness and color difference measured according to ASTM committee E12, standard E-284, to form a multicolored yarn.

23. (canceled)

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24. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 1 wherein the continuous filaments have less than 10% elongation to break.

25. (currently amended) A yarn according to Claim 1 wherein the continuous polymeric filaments comprising elastic filaments having an elongation to break greater than about 100% and an elastic recovery of at least 30% from an extension of 50%.

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26 (previously presented) A consolidated yarn comprising (a) discontinuous filaments of different lengths that have not been drawn and are intermingled along a length of the yarn to maintain a unity of the yarn, and (b) continuous filaments intermingled with the discontinuous filaments along the length of the yarn;

wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acetate polymer or copolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, polyacetal, an acrylate polymer or copolymer, polyacrylonitrile, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, polyimide, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a copolymer of an amide with an ether and/or ester, a vinyl polymer, and a polyimide; and mixtures of any two or more thereof;

wherein the continuous filaments comprise materials that are different from the materials from which the discontinuous filaments are comprised and are selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acetate polymer or copolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, polyacetal, an acrylate polymer or copolymer, polyacrylonitrile, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, polyimide, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a copolymer of an amide with an ether and/or ester, a vinyl polymer, a polyimide, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a natural fiber, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof; and

wherein the continuous filaments have less than 10% elongation to break.

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27. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 26 wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a vinyl polymer, and mixtures of any two or more thereof

28. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 26 wherein the wherein the continuous filaments comprise materials that are different from the materials from which the discontinuous filaments are comprised and are selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a vinyl polymer, a polyimide, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a natural fiber, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof.

29. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 26 wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, and mixtures of any two or more thereof; and wherein the continuous filaments comprise different materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a

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metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof.

30. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 26 wherein the average length, avg, of the discontinuous filaments is greater than 6 inches, and the discontinuous filaments have a filament length distribution of 5% to less than 15% of the filaments having a length less than 0.5 avg.

31. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 26 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier have a filament-to-filament coefficient of friction of 0.1 or less.

32. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 26 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn have a filament cross-section having a width and a plurality of thick portions connected by thin portions within the filament width, and the thin portions at the ends of the discontinuous filaments are severed so the thick portions are separated for a length of at least about three filament widths to thereby form split ends on the filaments.

33. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 26 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier have a latent elasticity of 30% or more.

34. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 26 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by

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denier comprise a bicomponent yarn comprising a first component of 2GT polyester and a second component of 3GT polyester.

35. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 26 wherein at least 1% of the yarn by denier comprises a fluoropolymer.

36. (currently amended) A yarn according to Claim 26 which comprises at least two filaments that have ~~visually distinct differences detectable by an unaided eye~~ a difference in colors, the colors of the filaments excluding neutral colors having a lightness greater than 90%, and the colors of the filaments having a color difference of at least 2.0 CIELAB units, the lightness and color difference measured according to ASTM committee E12, standard E-284, to form a multicolored yarn.

37. (canceled)

38. (currently amended) A yarn according to Claim 26 wherein the continuous polymeric filaments comprise elastic filaments having an elongation to break greater than about 100% and an elastic recovery of at least 30% from an extension of 50%.

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39. (currently amended) A consolidated yarn comprising (a) discontinuous filaments of different lengths that have not been drawn and are intermingled along a length of the yarn to maintain a unity of the yarn, and (b) continuous filaments intermingled with the discontinuous filaments along the length of the yarn;

wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acetate polymer or copolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, polyacetal, an acrylate polymer or copolymer, polyacrylonitrile, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, polyimide, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a copolymer of an amide with an ether and/or ester, a vinyl polymer, and a polyimide; and mixtures of any two or more thereof;

wherein the continuous filaments comprise materials that are different from the materials from which the discontinuous filaments are comprised and are selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acetate polymer or copolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, polyacetal, an acrylate polymer or copolymer, polyacrylonitrile, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, polyimide, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a copolymer of an amide with an ether and/or ester, a vinyl polymer, a polyimide, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a natural fiber, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof; and

wherein the continuous polymeric filaments comprise elastic filaments having an elongation to break greater than about

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100% and an elastic recovery of at least 30% from an extension of 50%.

40. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 39 wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a vinyl polymer, and mixtures of any two or more thereof

41. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 39 wherein the wherein the continuous filaments comprise materials that are different from the materials from which the discontinuous filaments are comprised and are selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a vinyl polymer, a polyimide, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a natural fiber, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof.

42. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 39 wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, and mixtures of any two or more thereof; and wherein the continuous filaments comprise different materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin

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polymer or copolymer, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof.

43. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 39 wherein the average length, avg, of the discontinuous filaments is greater than 6 inches, and the discontinuous filaments have a filament length distribution of 5% to less than 15% of the filaments having a length less than 0.5 avg.

44. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 39 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier have a filament-to-filament coefficient of friction of 0.1 or less.

45. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 39 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn have a filament cross-section having a width and a plurality of thick portions connected by thin portions within the filament width, and the thin portions at the ends of the discontinuous filaments are severed so the thick portions are separated for a length of at least about three filament widths to thereby form split ends on the filaments.

46. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 39 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier have a latent elasticity of 30% or more.

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47. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 39 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier comprise a bicomponent yarn comprising a first component of 2GT polyester and a second component of 3GT polyester.

48. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 39 wherein at least 1% of the yarn by denier comprises a fluoropolymer.

49. (currently amended) A yarn according to Claim 39 which comprises at least two filaments that have ~~visually distinct differences detectable by an unaided eye.~~ a difference in colors, the colors of the filaments excluding neutral colors having a lightness greater than 90%, and the colors of the filaments having a color difference of at least 2.0 CIELAB units, the lightness and color difference measured according to ASTM committee E12, standard E-284, to form a multicolored yarn.

50. (canceled)

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51. (currently amended) A consolidated yarn comprising (a) discontinuous filaments of different lengths that have not been drawn and are intermingled along a length of the yarn to maintain a unity of the yarn, and (b) continuous filaments intermingled with the discontinuous filaments along the length of the yarn;

wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acetate polymer or copolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, polyacetal, an acrylate polymer or copolymer, polyacrylonitrile, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, polyimide, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a copolymer of an amide with an ether and/or ester, a vinyl polymer, and a polyimide; and mixtures of any two or more thereof;

wherein the continuous filaments comprise materials that are different from the materials from which the discontinuous filaments are comprised and are selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acetate polymer or copolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, polyacetal, an acrylate polymer or copolymer, polyacrylonitrile, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, polyimide, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a copolymer of an amide with an ether and/or ester, a vinyl polymer, a polyimide, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a natural fiber, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof; and

wherein the yarn comprises at least two filaments that have visually distinct differences detectable by an unaided eye a

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difference in colors, the colors of the filaments excluding neutral colors having a lightness greater than 90%, and the colors of the filaments having a color difference of at least 2.0 CIELAB units, the lightness and color difference measured according to ASTM committee E12, standard E-284, to form a multicolored yarn.

52. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 51 wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a vinyl polymer, and mixtures of any two or more thereof

53. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 51 wherein the wherein the continuous filaments comprise materials that are different from the materials from which the discontinuous filaments are comprised and are selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a vinyl polymer, a polyimide, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a natural fiber, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof.

54. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 51 wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, and mixtures of any

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two or more thereof; and wherein the continuous filaments comprise different materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof.

55. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 51 wherein the average length, avg, of the discontinuous filaments is greater than 6 inches, and the discontinuous filaments have a filament length distribution of 5% to less than 15% of the filaments having a length less than 0.5 avg.

56. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 51 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier have a filament-to-filament coefficient of friction of 0.1 or less.

57. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 51 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn have a filament cross-section having a width and a plurality of thick portions connected by thin portions within the filament width, and the thin portions at the ends of the discontinuous filaments are severed so the thick portions are separated for a length of at least about three filament widths to thereby form split ends on the filaments.

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58. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 51 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier have a latent elasticity of 30% or more.

59. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 51 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier comprise a bicomponent yarn comprising a first component of 2GT polyester and a second component of 3GT polyester.

60. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 51 wherein at least 1% of the yarn by denier comprises a fluoropolymer.

61. (currently amended) A yarn according to Claim 51 wherein ~~the differences comprise a difference in colors, the colors of the filaments excluding neutral colors having a lightness greater than 90%, and the colors of the filaments having a color difference of at least 2.0 CIELAB units, the lightness and color difference measured according to ASTM committee E12, standard E 284, to form a multicolored yarn~~ the continuous polymeric filaments comprise elastic filaments having an elongation to break greater than about 100% and an elastic recovery of at least 30% from an extension of 50%.

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62. (previously presented) A consolidated yarn comprising (a) discontinuous filaments of different lengths that have not been drawn and are intermingled along a length of the yarn to maintain a unity of the yarn, and (b) continuous filaments intermingled with the discontinuous filaments along the length of the yarn;

wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acetate polymer or copolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, polyacetal, an acrylate polymer or copolymer, polyacrylonitrile, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, polyimide, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a copolymer of an amide with an ether and/or ester, a vinyl polymer, and a polyimide; and mixtures of any two or more thereof;

wherein the continuous filaments comprise materials that are different from the materials from which the discontinuous filaments are comprised and are selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acetate polymer or copolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, polyacetal, an acrylate polymer or copolymer, polyacrylonitrile, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, polyimide, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a copolymer of an amide with an ether and/or ester, a vinyl polymer, a polyimide, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a natural fiber, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof; and

wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier have a latent elasticity of 30% or more.

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63. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 62 wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a vinyl polymer, and mixtures of any two or more thereof.

64. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 62 wherein the wherein the continuous filaments comprise materials that are different from the materials from which the discontinuous filaments are comprised and are selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, a styrenic polymer or copolymer, an ether/ester copolymer, a vinyl polymer, a polyimide, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a natural fiber, a metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof.

65. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 62 wherein the discontinuous filaments comprise materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, and mixtures of any two or more thereof; and wherein the continuous filaments comprise different materials selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyester, an aramid, a fluoropolymer, a cellulose polymer, an olefin polymer or copolymer, a polyurethane, a copolymer having blocks of polyurethane and blocks of polymerized ethers and/or esters, a

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metallic fiber or wire, a glass fiber or a ceramic fiber; and mixtures of any two or more thereof.

66. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 62 wherein the average length, avg, of the discontinuous filaments is greater than 6 inches, and the discontinuous filaments have a filament length distribution of 5% to less than 15% of the filaments having a length less than 0.5 avg.

67. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 62 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier have a filament-to-filament coefficient of friction of 0.1 or less.

68. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 62 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn have a filament cross-section having a width and a plurality of thick portions connected by thin portions within the filament width, and the thin portions at the ends of the discontinuous filaments are severed so the thick portions are separated for a length of at least about three filament widths to thereby form split ends on the filaments.

69. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 62 wherein at least 1% of the discontinuous filaments in the yarn by denier comprise a bicomponent yarn comprising a first component of 2GT polyester and a second component of 3GT polyester.

70. (previously presented) A yarn according to Claim 62 wherein at least 1% of the yarn by denier comprises a fluoropolymer.

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71. (currently amended) A yarn according to Claim 62 which comprises at least two filaments that have ~~visually distinct differences detectable by an unaided eye, wherein the differences~~ comprise a difference in colors, the colors of the filaments excluding neutral colors having a lightness greater than 90%, and the colors of the filaments having a color difference of at least 2.0 CIELAB units, the lightness and color difference measured according to ASTM committee E12, standard E-284, to form a multicolored yarn.